

Evaluating the frequency of risk factors of patients with pseudotumor cerebri referred to the neurology clinic of Alavi Hospital in Ardabil in 2021

Abstract

Background: The underlying pathogenesis of pseudotumor cerebri is not known. Increased intracranial pressure is a consistent feature of this disease, but the mechanism by which intracranial pressure increases is not clear.

Aim: The aim of this study was to investigate the clinical characteristics and risk factors of patients with pseudotumor cerebri in Ardabil province in 2021.

Materials and methods: This study was conducted on patients diagnosed with pseudotumor cerebri in a neurology clinic. The diagnosis of pseudotumor cerebri was based on the opinion of a neurologist and based on Dandy's criteria. General characteristics including gender, age, body mass index, education level, employment status, and smoking; clinical features such as headache, transient vision loss, nausea, vomiting, dizziness, diplopia, tinnitus, papillary edema, 6th nerve palsy, etc.; and related possible risk factors such as underlying disease, family history of pseudotumor cerebri, chronic use of steroids, chronic use of NSAIDs, etc. were included in this study.

Results: 50 patients diagnosed with pseudotumor cerebri were included in the study. 3 patients (6%) were male and 47 patients (94%) were female. The average age of the patients was 29.46 ± 5.82 years and their average BMI was 39.46 ± 3.11 . Family history of the disease was reported in 2 patients (4%). A history of steroid use was reported in 3 patients (6 percent), while none of the patients mentioned a history of NSAID use. A history of hypertension in 3 cases (6 percent), a history of diabetes in 4 cases (8 percent), A history of hypothyroidism was reported in 1 case (2%), a history of anemia due to various causes in 3 cases (6%), and a history of lung disease in 1 case (2%). In 45 patients (90%), headache, in 32 patients (64%) transient vision loss, in 4 patients (8%) nausea/vomiting, in 15 patients (30%) dizziness, in 9 patients (18%) double vision, in 26 Pulsating tinnitus was reported in 52% cases, papillary edema in 48 patients (96%) and 6th nerve palsy in 6 patients (12%).

Conclusion: Most patients with pseudotumor cerebri are obese women of reproductive age.

Key words: pseudotumor cerebri, risk factor, symptoms and signs of the disease